TRAVANCORE MOTOR VEHICLES PLYING IN PORT AREA— FEES CHARGED

106. Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the number of Travancore lorries, cars or other motor vehicles that are now allowed to cross the bridges to enter the Port Area;

(*b*) what is the fee that is charged for the annual permits issued to the above Travancore motor vehicles?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) No separate statistics are taken of the Travancore vehicles entering the Port Area.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Were these Travancore lorries coming here before the bridges were formally opened ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* Travancore Government lorries alone were coming.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Is there any account showing the number of these lorries and the fees charged on them, maintained by the Port Authorities ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* Since the Municipal toll-gates came, there may be accounts.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Even before the bridges were formally opened for general traffic, these Travancore lorries were coming in the Port area. No toll gates were established at that time, so that there must be an account as to how many lorries were coming, etc., kept there. I request the Government to supply me with that information.

Mr. President: What for ? Every question must have a specific purpose. What is your purpose ? Before that a considerable amount of tea traffic was going to other ports. By an arrangement with the Travancore Government, the Port Authorities allowed that traffic to come here. That traffic is diverted through this port. Now your question is, how many of these lorries came.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* I was only asking that to know whether we were loosing anything by way of toll revenue. Are these lorries to pay the usual fees as regards tolls and other permits ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* Yes.

Mr. President: They do not enjoy any special privilege.

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